

# **School Bus Project Fact Sheet**

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) is **NOW ACCEPTING** applications for school bus projects. Funding for school bus projects is provided through the Carl Moyer Program (CMP), Community Health Protection Grant Program (CHPP), local Mobile Source Incentive Funds (MSIF) and Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) to assist public school bus fleet operators to reduce harmful vehicle emissions from older equipment.

Larger funding amounts!
For school buses, electric &

alternative-fueled equipment, and charging & fueling infrastructure.

### Who can apply?

Public school districts and Joint Powers Authorities (JPA), public charter schools, county offices of education and private fleets contracted to provide public school transportation may apply. Under CMP, only public school districts and JPA's are eligible for bus replacement options (other fleets can apply for bus replacement under the On-Road Vehicle project category - <a href="www.baaqmd.gov/onroad">www.baaqmd.gov/onroad</a>). Under the Community Health Protection Program, all public-school bus fleets (including transportation companies) may apply for all project options. Before applying, contact our staff to discuss your fleet so that we can assist you to apply for the correct program option.

The following counties are part of the Air District's jurisdiction: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and southern portions of Solano and Sonoma. Air District-funded equipment must operate within the Air District's jurisdictional boundaries. **Priority is given to projects that reduce emissions in the following impacted communities – AB 617 communities and communities for future AB 617 consideration.** 

- West Oakland
- Richmond-San Pablo
- East Oakland/ San Leandro
- Eastern San Francisco

- Pittsburg-Bay Point area
- San Jose
- Tri-Valley area
- Vallejo

More information about this funding priority is available at <a href="www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants">www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants</a>. Air District staff will determine whether applications meet the Carl Moyer Program, Community Health Protection Grant Program and/or Transportation Fund for Clean Air requirements.

## What types of projects are eligible for grants?

Grants are available for school bus replacement, engine retrofit, fleet expansion and battery charging & alternative fueling infrastructure. Eligible buses must have a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 14,001 lbs or heavier and be fueled by diesel or natural gas (or LPG). Projects for smaller buses (<14,000 lbs) may be considered on a case-by-case basis. See **Table 1** below for grant amounts and maximum award limits (caps).

Since public school districts or JPA's can receive up to 100% of the costs to replace school buses and install fueling & charging equipment, these applicants are strongly encouraged to propose projects for zero- and near-zero equipment that significantly reduce children's exposure to harmful emissions. Any commercially available

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equipment certified, verified, or having an approval letter by CARB is eligible for funding. Vendors are good sources of information for these equipment options or contact our staff.

Funding determinations are based on the cost-effectiveness of the project by annual emissions reduced as compared to dollars awarded (i.e., tons reduced per dollar). Funded equipment for projects must be new (never owned); no used equipment can be funded.

#### What other information should I know about grants for school buses?

- Applicants submit one application including all equipment for which they wish to receive a grant. Air District staff will evaluate the application to determine eligibility against all funding options.
- Applicants submit documentation about existing engines and buses (e.g. make, model, horsepower); title; mileage, insurance and DMV registration documentation for the 24 months prior to application, CARB TRUCRS documentation, and vendor quotes (including ARB Executive Order) for replacement equipment. Priority will be given to electric replacement buses or replacement buses with low-NOx engines. Buses with other fuel types will be placed on a back-up list and considered on a case-by-case basis if funds are available.
- Public school districts must submit a school board Resolution approving the application and proposed project costs which includes the required text below:
  - "WHEREAS the (Board, District or name of the District) is aware that funding is available through the Carl Moyer Program for purchase of the cleanest available equipment, including zero-emissions and near-zero-emissions school buses and the charging or fueling infrastructure to support the use of these buses, and the (Board, District or name of the District) was offered the opportunity to fund zero-emissions and near-zero-emissions school bus equipment."
- Bus replacement projects require destruction of the old/existing equipment
- If funding is available (on a case-by-case basis), the Air District may consider fleet expansion projects involving the purchase of zero-emission buses for school districts in Priority Communities: contact our staff for information
- For all projects, <u>no work is to be done and no equipment is to be ordered</u> until the Grantee and Air District have fully executed (signed by both parties) a grant agreement (contract) for the project.

Applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds have been awarded. Applications must be complete to be considered for funding.

### What can I do now, before I start my application?

- Read this Fact Sheet completely. This is a summary not a full list of Program requirements.
- For complete information about Program requirements, visit:
  - o Air District School Bus program webpage: www.baaqmd.gov/schoolbuses
  - o CARB Carl Moyer Program guidelines Chapter 4-On-Road Vehicle or Chapter 10-Infrastructure projects at: <a href="www.arb.ca.gov/guidelines-carl-moyer">www.arb.ca.gov/guidelines-carl-moyer</a>
- Understand CARB Truck & Bus Regulation requirements, available at: www.arb.ca.gov/truckstop
- Collect information and materials for your application and discuss equipment options with your engine or vehicle dealer.
- Contact Ken Mak at kmak@baaqmd.gov or (415)-749-8660 with questions or for an initial funding analysis.

Apply online at: <a href="https://www.baaqmd.gov/moyer">www.baaqmd.gov/moyer</a>

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Table 1 - Maximum Funding Amounts for Public School Bus Projects (cost-effectiveness results may limit funding amount)

(cost chectiveness results may mine runding unround)	
Project Type	Maximum Funding (per piece of equipment)
School Bus Replacement – with engines certified to any of the optional Low-NOx standards (i.e. 0.1,0.05, or 0.02 g/bhp-hr)	\$220,000
Hybrid School Bus Replacement <sup>1</sup>	\$220,000
Zero-Emission (electric or fuel cell) Bus Replacement or Conversion <sup>1</sup>	\$400,000
Natural gas fueling or battery-electric charging infrastructure, or vehicle-to-grid power infrastructure - with School Bus Replacement	up to 100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Eligible for co-funding with other state, federal or private incentive funding. State funds for private fleets are capped (contact our staff for details). There is no funding cap for electric projects eligible through the Community Health Protection Program. For information about other funding options, visit <a href="https://www.arb.ca.gov/truckstop">https://www.arb.ca.gov/truckstop</a>.

# How do I find out about regulatory requirements for my school bus fleet?

Call the CARB hotline at 1-866-6-DIESEL (634-3735) or visit the on-road & school bus fleet information pages at <a href="www.arb.ca.gov/truckstop">www.arb.ca.gov/truckstop</a>. Air District staff do not have access to fleet records (TRUCRS) and cannot answer specific questions about your fleet.

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